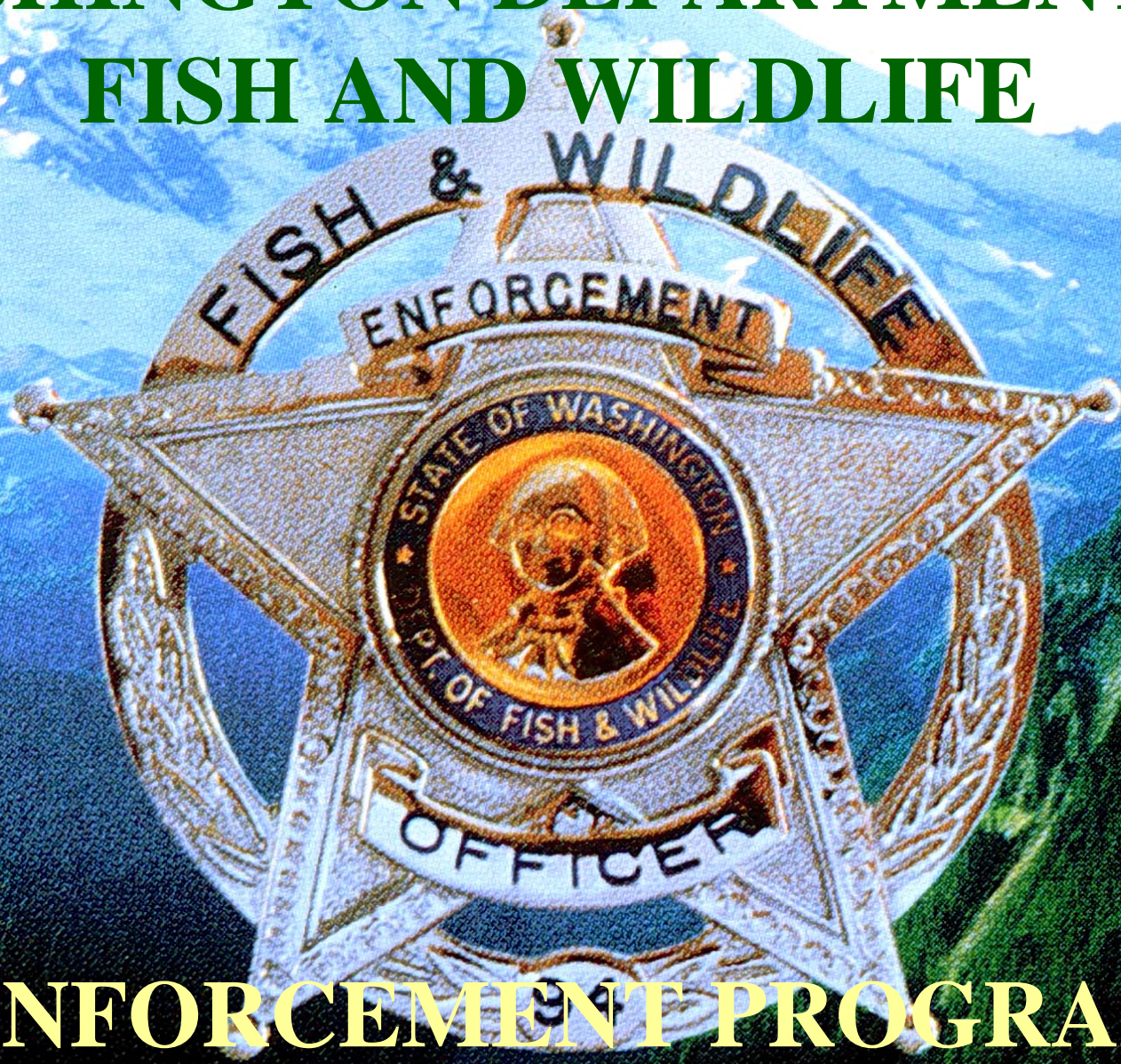


WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE



ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM

ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM



- **Enforcement's authorized FTE level for the 05-07 biennium is 161 personnel**
- **142 are fully commissioned Fish and Wildlife Officers**
- **19 Headquarters staff**

Department of Fish and Wildlife

Enforcement Program

Headquarters 7117

November 2006

Key:

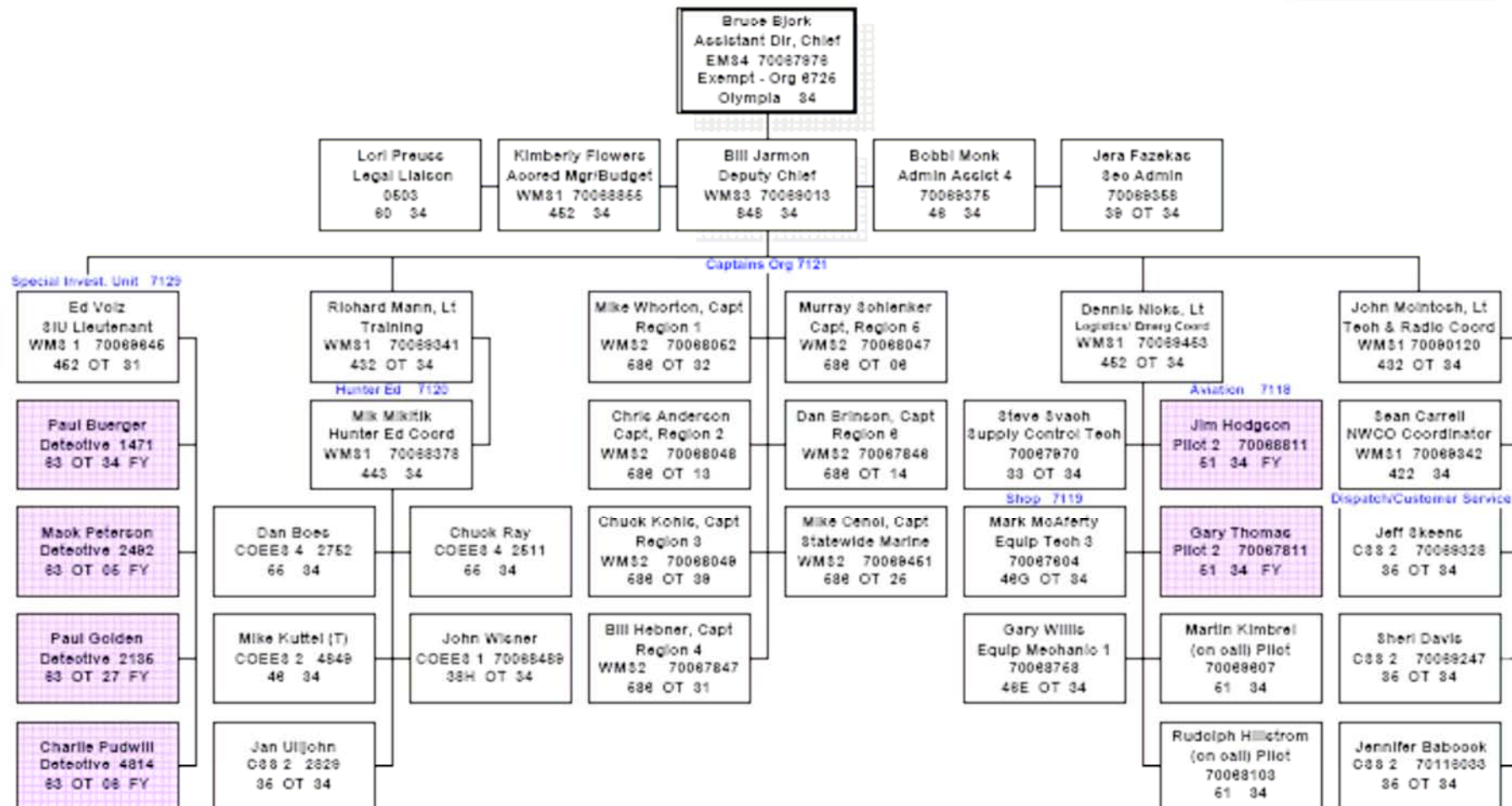
Vacant

Coalition

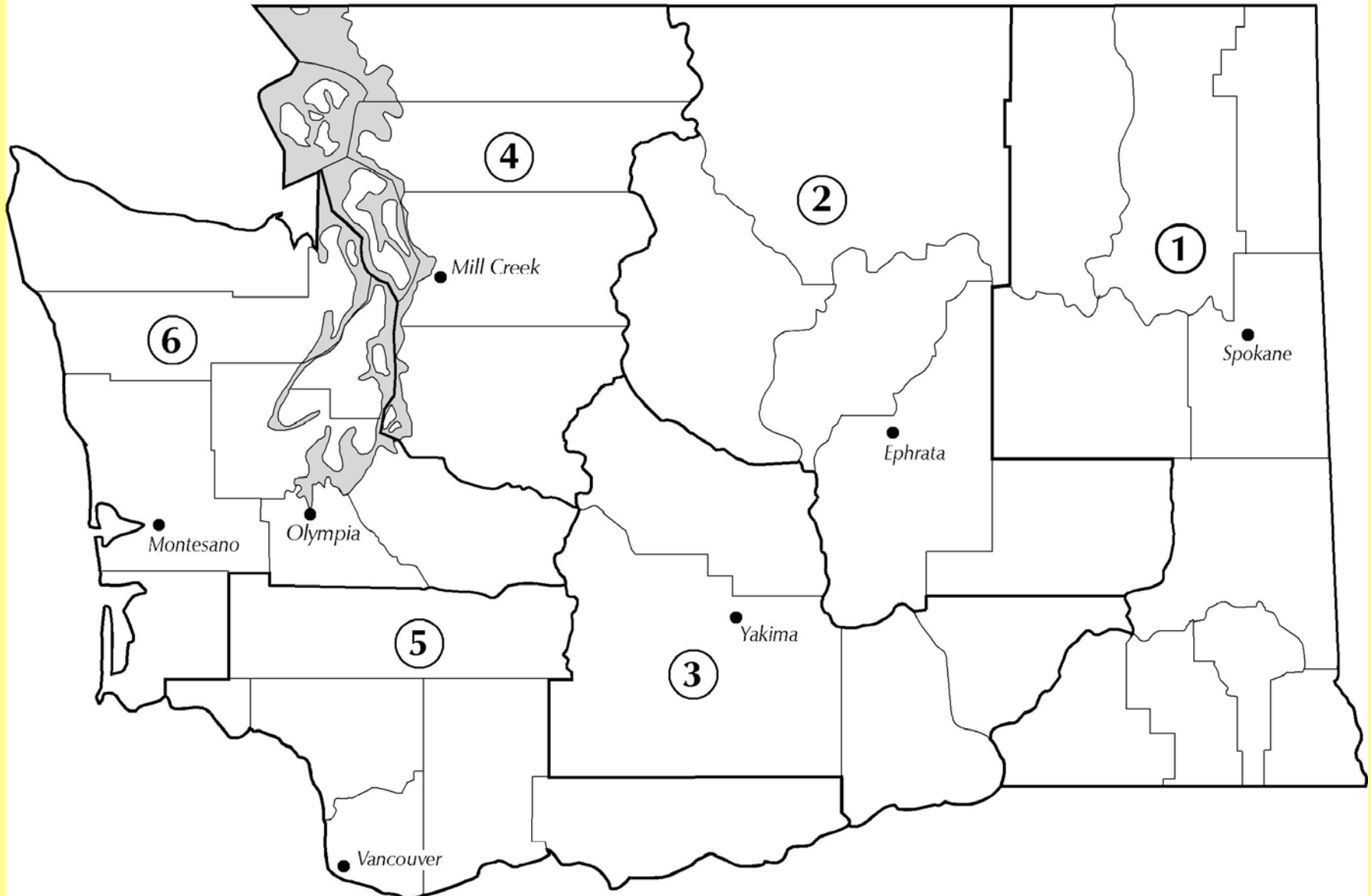
WFSE

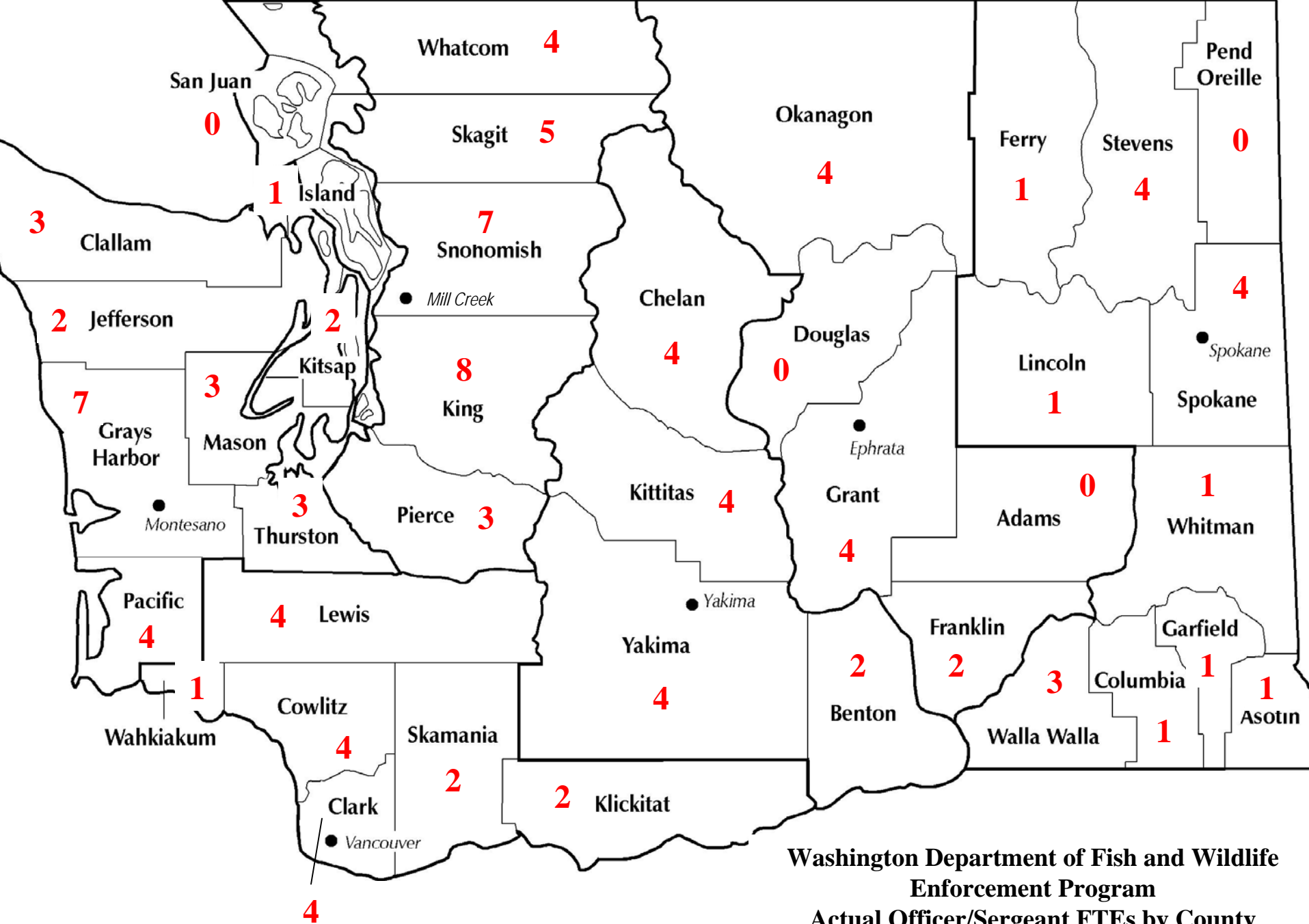
WPEA

OT = Overtime
Eligible



WDFW ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM REGION MAP





**Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Enforcement Program
Actual Officer/Sergeant FTEs by County
11/28/06**

FISH AND WILDLIFE OFFICER MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS



- **A Bachelor's degree (Natural Resource science or Criminal Justice preferred)**

OR

- **A two-year college degree, and two years of paid, full-time, natural resource experience or two years of paid, full-time, commissioned law enforcement experience.**

HIRING PROCESS

- **Oral & Written Exam**
- **Full Background investigation**
- **Polygraph**
- **Psychological**
- **Basic Law Enforcement Academy (BLEA) and Peace Officer Certification required per RCW 43.101 upon hire**
- **12-16 week Field Training**



PRIORITIES



- **The Statutes we work under (legislative direction)**
- **The goals and priorities of the Commission and Director**
- **Resource Program requests - (Fish, Wildlife, Habitat)**
- **Public safety issues**

COMMISSIONED TO SERVE



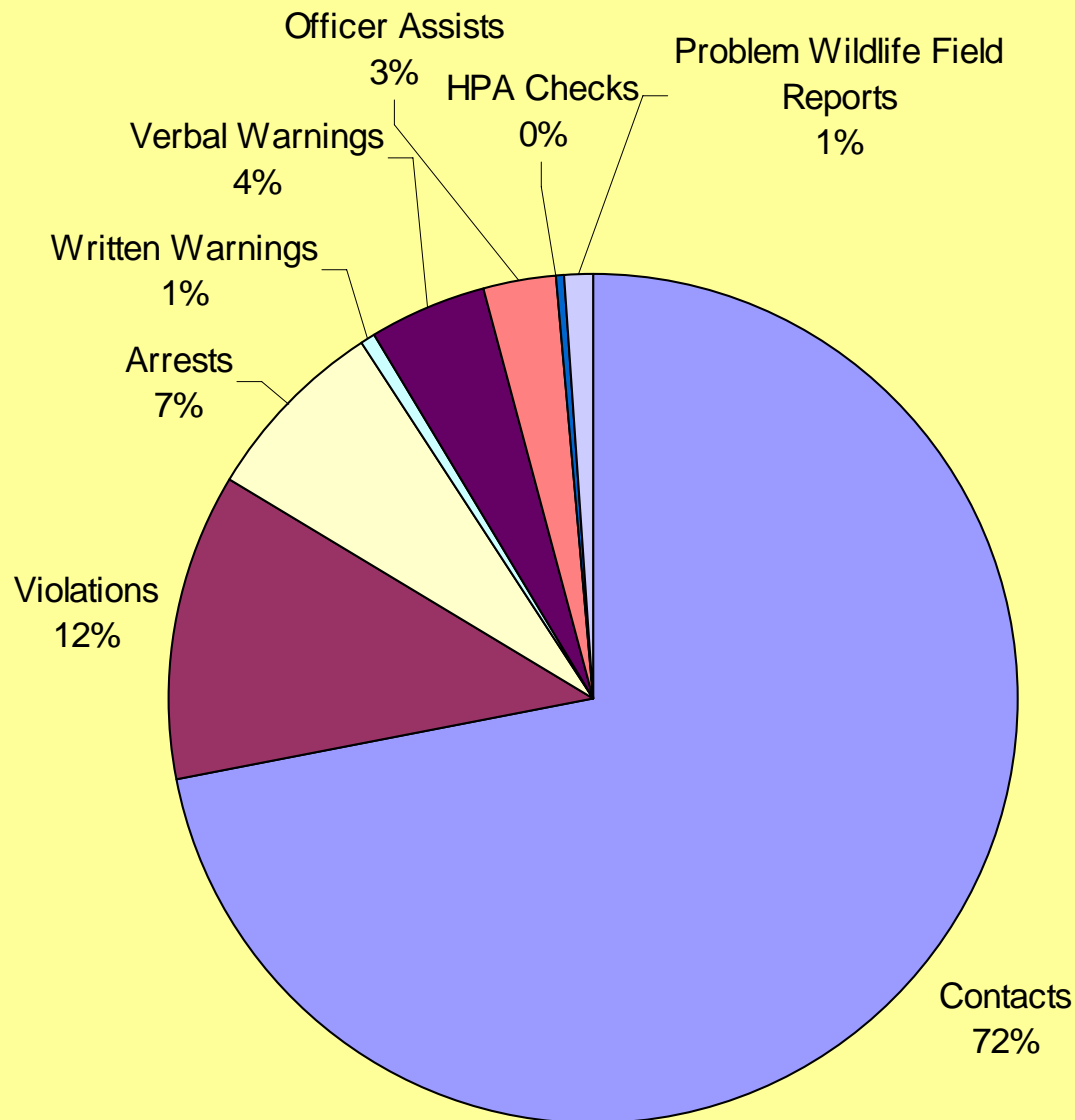
- **FWOs are general authority peace officers primarily responsible to enforce Title 77, the Fish and Wildlife Code.**
- **Officers are also charged with enforcing statewide laws.**
- **Officers assist their local city/county and other law enforcement agencies and tribal authorities.**
- **Officers make more than 250,000 public contacts annually.**

PRESERVE AND PROTECT

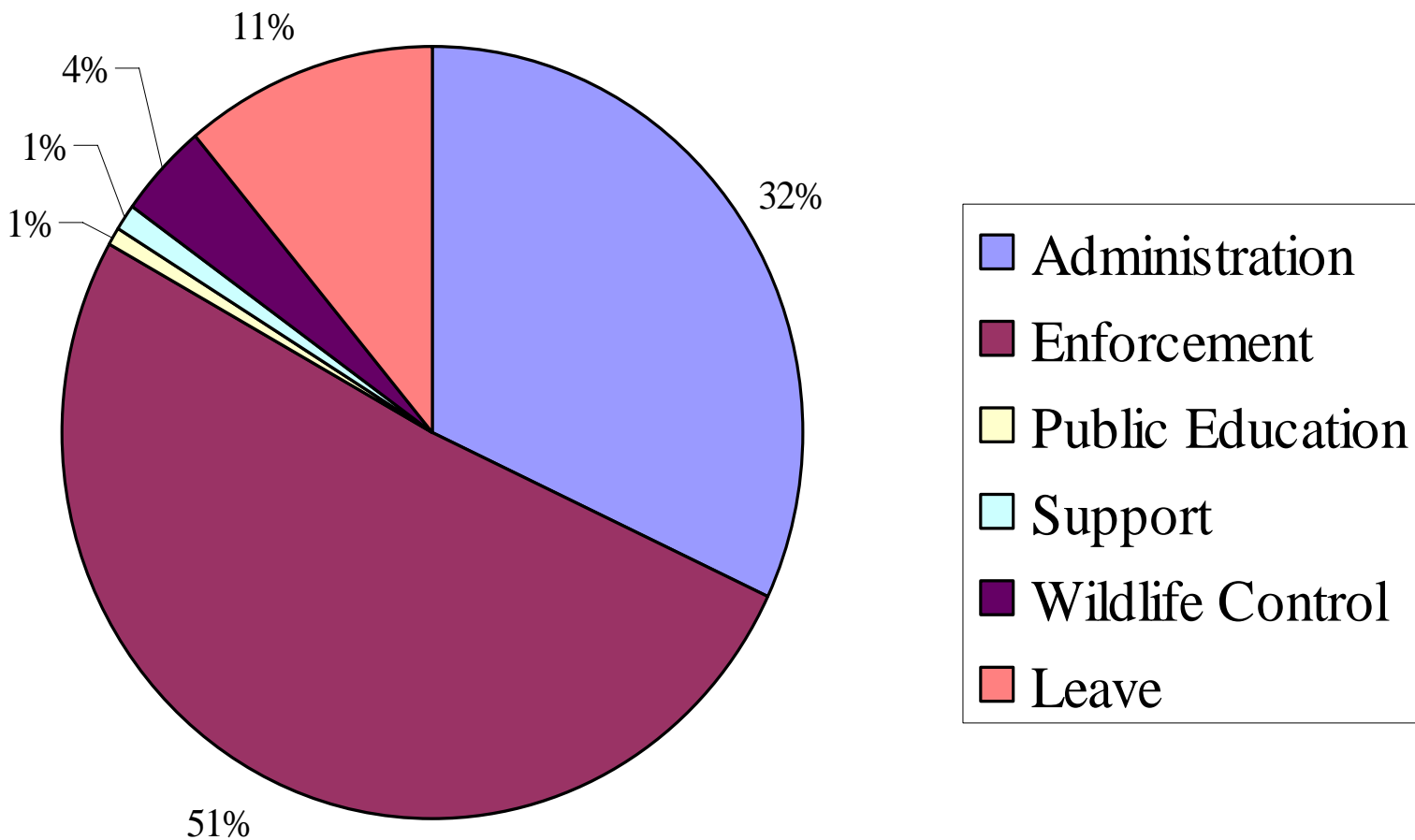


- **Officers are commissioned under U.S. Fish and Wildlife and National Marine Fisheries Service.**
- **Officers work jointly with the USFWS, NOAA Fisheries, U.S. Customs and the U.S. Coast Guard.**
- **Officers have jurisdiction over federal law violations (ESA, Magnuson and Lacey Act).**
- **Officers are commissioned by their county sheriffs to enforce county ordinance as it relates to no shooting areas, watercraft, ORVs, trespassing, and other violations.**

2005 ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY



2005 ENFORCEMENT TIME USE

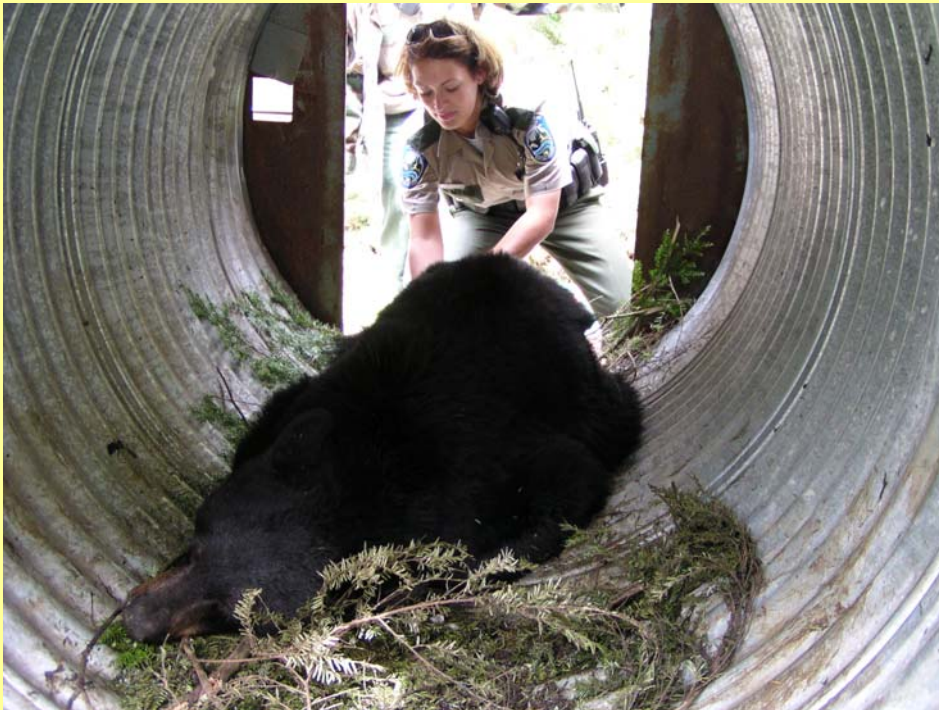


FIRST RESPONSE



- Officers provide first response to human/wildlife conflicts.
- Officers responded to over 1,000 human/wildlife conflicts in 2005, and the number continues to increase.
- These include bear, moose and cougar complaints, deer and elk damage to crops, problem wildlife incidents and other wildlife conflicts.

HUMAN/WILDLIFE INTERACTIONS



- Dangerous wildlife response
- Big game crop damage issues
- Nuisance wildlife advice

RECREATIONAL HUNTING AND FISHING

- Resource protection
- Ensure equal harvest opportunity
- Protect public safety
- Maximize opportunity for all groups
- Big and small game, upland bird, waterfowl, fish and shellfish



COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES



- **Commercial food fish and shellfish harvest**
- **Ensure consumer safety**
– **RCW 69**
Sanitary shellfish

COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES

- Wholesale and retail marketplace inspections
- Monitor product exports
- Meat processors
- Taxidermists and fur dealers



OTHER LAW ENFORCEMENT

- **Traffic/vessel accidents and public safety issues**
- **Local police and sheriff assists**
- **Illegal drug operations**



OTHER LAW ENFORCEMENT

Forest Products



Boating Safety



Off-Road Vehicle/Snowmobile

PUBLIC EDUCATION

- **Field contacts**
- **Schools**
- **Civic organizations**
- **Fairs**
- **Hunter Education**



HUNTER EDUCATION



- **Training mandated by RCW 77.32.155**
- **4 full-time staff**
- **Over 700 volunteer instructors**
- **Educate first time hunters in the safe use of firearms, ethics and conservation**
- **Reduce or eliminate hunting related firearms incidents**

HUNTER EDUCATION



- **15,527 total students certified in FY 2006**
- **Basic Hunter Education Classroom – 13,460**
Home study – 682
- **Advanced Hunter Education – 949**
- **Bow Hunter – 66 and**
Trapper Education – 70
- **7 non-fatal, 1 fatal incidents in FY 2006**



CHALLENGES



- **Decline in the officer/citizen ratio**
(1 per 41,500 today vs. 1 per 23,000 in the early 1980s)
- **Federal court and agency mandates**

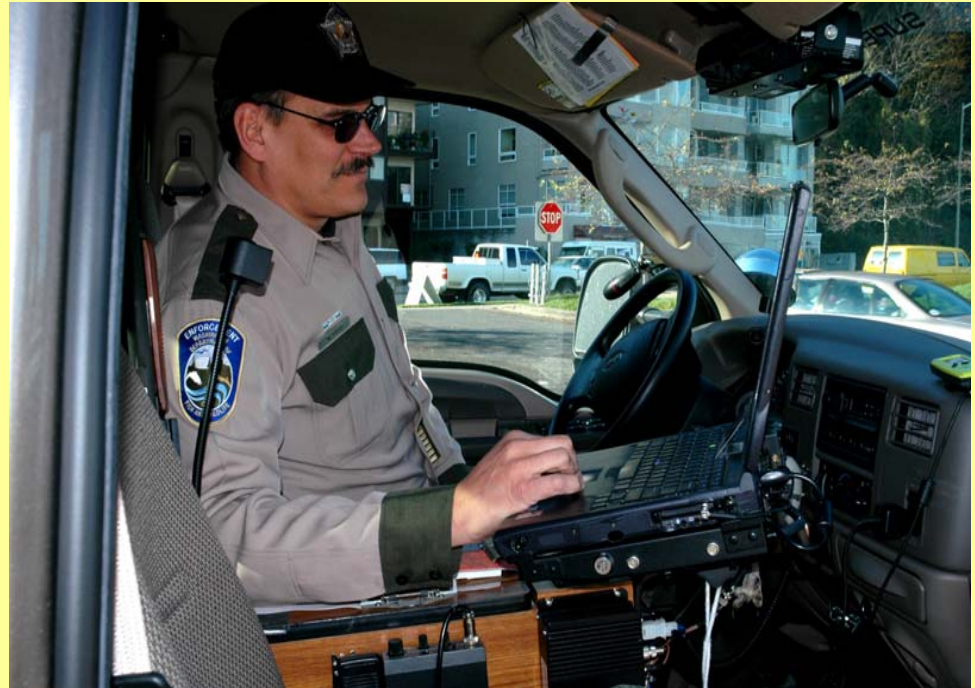
CHALLENGES



- **Dangerous wildlife / I-655 impacts**
- **Damage claims and Trapping issues / I-713**
- **Illegal fish and wildlife activity & public safety issues**
- **ESA / Selective Fishery monitoring**
- **Budget erosion**

2007-09 OPERATING BUDGET

- **Fish and Wildlife Officer
Computer Support -
\$183,320**
- **LEOFF 2 Employer
Contributions - \$250K**
- **Colville Partnership
Initiative - \$780K, 3 FTE**
- **Enforcing Sanitary
Shellfish Mandates -
\$780K, 3 FTE**
- **Property/Evidence
Custodians - \$472,200,
3 FTE**



VISION FOR THE FUTURE

- **CALEA and WASPC Accreditation (Currently CALEA Recognized)**
- **Implementation of the Enforcement Strategic Plan, CJTC Career Level Certification, and WDFW Career Development Plan**
- **Enhance partnerships with law enforcement and citizen groups**



